





PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Aboul-Hosn et al:

Attorney Docket No.: 9261.16586-CIP 2

Serial No.:

09/470,697

Examiner: P. Bianco

Filed:

23 December 1999

Group Art Unit: 3762

For:

Apparatus and Methods for Entering Cavities of the Body

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

DECLINED

AUG 23 2002

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL

1. Transmitted herewith is an amendment for this application.

STATUS

2. Applicant is

[x] a small entity

[] other than a small entity.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING (37 CFR 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this paper (along with any referred to as being attached or enclosed) is being deposited with the United State Postal Service on the date shown below with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to the: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Judith Dunaway

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Date: 14 August 2002

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RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENT

RECEIVED

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Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Applicant responds to the Office Action (which contains an election of species requirement) mailed February 26, 2002, for which a shortened one month period of time was set for response.

An automatic five month extension of time to respond, up to and including August 26, 2002, is respectfully requested. The requisite fee accompanies this Amendment.

In response to the restriction requirement, Applicant elects Species H (Figs. 16 to 19). Claims 1; 3 to 6; 8 to 11; 13; and 14 read on this species. Claims 1; 3 to 6; 8 to 11; and 13 are believed to be generic to all species.

Respectfully submitted,

By_

Daniel D. Ryan, Reg. No. 29,243

RYAN KROMHOLZ & MANION, S.C. P.O. Box 26618 Milwaukee, Wisconsin 53226-0618 (262) 783-1300 August 14, 2002 470697rr.ddr